



2833

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)

BRUCE J. SERBIN ET AL.)

Serial No. 10/092,984)

Filed: March 7, 2002)

For: ELECTRICAL CONNECTION)

Examiner: Edwin A. Leon

Group Art Unit: 2833

Docket No: DP-306075

#5
6/30/03
Jm

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE

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This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 16, 2003.

Please cancel claim 14 without any prejudice to Applicants' right to file a divisional patent application directed to the method of claim 14.

However, the restriction requirement with respect to method claim 15 is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner cites MPEP § 806.05(f) as the basis for the requirement for an election between electrical connection claims 1-13 and method claims 14-15. MPEP § 806.05(f) is based on 35 U.S.C. § 121 which requires that two or more independent and distinct inventions are being claimed.

The Examiner opines that the inventions are "distinct" because "the electrical connector can be made by shaping a piece of metal into the desired shape without cutting it from a metallic sheet."

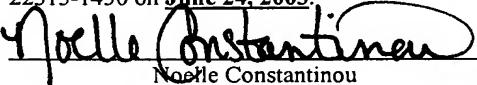
June 24, 2003

Method claim 15 does not require that any cutting of anything from a metallic sheet. Hence the Examiner has not provided any basis for requiring a restriction with respect to claim 15. Consequently the requirement for restriction with respect to method claim 15 is not proper. Applicant reserves the right to respond to any further requirement for a restriction as to claim 15 after the Examiner has given a reason for requiring the restriction.

Applicant provisionally elects to prosecute the electrical connection claims 1-13 and requests the examination of method claim 15 along with the examination of electrical connection claims 1-13.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on June 24, 2003.


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Respectfully submitted,

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